

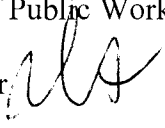


BUDGET MEMO # 25

DATE: April, 12, 2013

TO: The Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: David Summers, Director of Public Works

THROUGH: Robert Sisson, City Manager 

SUBJECT: Storm Water Fund and Maintenance of privately owned SWM facilities

The proposed FY 14 budget requests 2 cents dedicated to Storm Water projects. This would yield approximately \$1.2 million dollars in available funds.

Approximately \$600,000 of these funds would be dedicated towards required annual maintenance and repair work on the City's existing storm water infrastructure, as shown in the proposed budget on pages H4 through H11.

Approximately \$500,000 would be dedicated to providing solutions to existing drainage and flooding problems, as shown in the proposed budget on pages H12, H17, H18, and H19.

The remaining funds, approximately \$100,000, would be dedicated to meet the new State requirements for MS4 (*Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System*) and VSMP (*Virginia Stormwater Management Program*), as shown in the proposed budget on pages H13, H14, and H16.

There are about 115 privately owned SWM/BMP facilities located within the City.

It is the responsibility of the property owner to inspect their facility every year, and to maintain their facility. This must be verified by the property owner in their inspection report.

The City spends about \$4000 each year inspecting the 18 City owned SWM/BMP facilities, located on 10 different sites.

Each inspection site visit on average costs about \$400.

Our estimate is that the **inspection** of the 115 private sites would have a total cost to property owners of about **\$50,000 per year**.

On average, the cost of using a vacuum truck to clean out a facility is about \$3000 per site. Assuming that the inspection would recommend a cleaning annually, this would be the approximate yearly cost to maintain a facility. This **does not** include the replacement of any parts

or filters in the system. There are many different varieties and sizes of systems, each one having its own maintenance requirements.

A very rough total cost of **annual maintenance** for **all** of the 115 private facilities would be approximately **\$350,000 per year**. As stated previously, this does not include repairs or parts. This cost estimate also does not include the annual maintenance of any wet ponds.

Farrcroft and Ashby Pond are the only wet ponds located within the City. These require occasional dredging to remove the accumulation of sediment. Dredging can be very expensive and can cost in excess of \$100K, depending on how much sediment is required to be removed.

One option as to how the City could assist a property owner, who is required to maintain a facility, would be for the City to use a portion of the Storm Water fund to take on the burden of the inspections. The City could hire a consultant, for approximately \$50,000 a year, to provide the inspection services for the 115 privately owned facilities.

This would save the property owners the inspection fee, and would also help the City meet their MS4 and VSMP permit requirements. However, the City would also need to proceed with enforcement, if necessary, on any facilities which failed the inspection and have not been maintained properly.